

Bones Of Myles Standish To Be Unearthed After 275 Years In Duxbury

To Be Placed in Metal Box in Same Cemetery Near
Hall's Corner—Town Votes Money—Will
Keep Remains for Centuries

The bones of the great Capt. Myles Standish of Pilgrim fame, that have rested for more than 275 years in the little burial ground near Hall's Corner, Duxbury, will be unearthed again and placed in a metal box and then the box placed in a cement receptacle and buried in the same grave.

This is according to vote taken at the last town meeting, when, at the request of Dr. Myles Standish of Boston, the town voted \$210 for this purpose. When this vote of the town is carried out by the Selectmen the bones of the great Pilgrim will probably remain untouched for centuries.

Above 1891 there had been a good deal of controversy about the grave of Capt. Standish, and it had been a well-established fact that it was in the graveyard at Hall's Corner. At that time the late Rev. E. J. V. Huigin was rector of the Episcopal church in Duxbury, and Rev. Huigin, Dr. W. G. Brown, now of Plymouth, and several others, made a complete survey of the burial ground and excavated, where records told of the grave, and after digging down through a little mound of earth they came upon the

bones of Capt. Myles Standish, skull well preserved, and there were many of the other bones of the body in the grave.

There is a marked resemblance of the shape of Capt. Myles Standish's head in many of his descendants. These bones were taken out and placed in a strong wooden box and again buried in the same grave from which they were taken.

A few years later the Government gave to the town four large cannons, one to be placed at each corner of the burial ground, and between these guns are iron chains connecting them.

Reinter Bones of Myles Standish

Special to the Transcript: 1931

Duxbury, April 25—With simple but dignified ceremonies the bones of Captain Myles Standish, one of the founders of the Plymouth colony, were interred today in a little cemetery near Hall's Corner, South Duxbury, in a hermetically sealed copper casket which will preserve them for all time. The casket was placed in the same grave where the remains of the Pilgrim were found forty years ago, at which time they were reinterred in a new wooden casket.

The lot in the little cemetery was decked with flags and at each corner stood a large cannon. Four past commanders of Duxbury Post 223, American Legion constituted a guard of honor. They were Lawrence Whitney, George Newitt, Eben Briggs and Kendall Blanchard. In a copper tube placed with the casket were records prepared by Dr. Myles Standish of Boston, a direct descendant, and records of the town of Duxbury. Many patriotic and historical societies were represented and the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston was represented by Past Commander Major J. W. H. Myrick and Captain Francis S. Cummings.

The services were opened by Sidney Soule, chairman of the Duxbury Board of Selectmen, who told of the vote of the town to build a tomb for Captain Standish and have his bones interred in a casket of metal. Rev. Dudley W. Childs, minister of the First Church of Duxbury, read Mrs. Hemans's poem, "The Landing of the Pilgrims." Rev. Abbot Peterson, minister of the First Church of Brookline and chaplain of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, gave a short sketch of Myles Standish. Rev. Fred L. Grant of the First Congregational Church of Duxbury, offered the prayer.

On the casket as it was lowered to the grave was a large wreath of